

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of Claims in the
Application:

Sub B1 } 1. (Original) An assembly comprising:

a pallet having a deck;

a carrier for supporting goods thereon or therein adapted to mate with the deck such that the carrier may be optionally mated with the deck or removed therefrom.

2. (Original) The assembly of Claim 1 wherein the carrier is a modular tray.

3. (Currently amended) The assembly of Claim 2 wherein ~~each~~ the modular tray has means on the bottom thereof for cooperating with either the deck or another tray and means on the top thereof for cooperating with another tray.

A' 4. (Currently amended) The assembly of Claim 3 wherein ~~each~~ the tray and the pallet have front surfaces and further including means for ensuring the pallet and the ~~trays~~ tray are mated in a correct alignment such that the front surfaces of the ~~trays~~ tray and the front surface of the pallet are aligned with one being on top of the other and coplanar when a tray is stacked upon the pallet and a tray is stacked upon another tray.

5. (Currently amended) The assembly of Claim 2 further including

a top piece having means on the bottom thereof for cooperating with a tray and

wherein ~~each~~ the modular tray has means on the top thereof for cooperating with either another tray or the top piece.

6. (Currently amended) The assembly of Claim 5 wherein ~~each~~ the tray, the pallet and the top piece have front surfaces and further including means for ensuring the pallet, the top piece and the ~~trays~~ tray are mated in a correct alignment such that the front surfaces of the ~~trays~~ tray, the front surface of the top piece and the front surface of the pallet are aligned with one being on top of the other and coplanar when a tray is stacked upon the pallet, a tray is stacked upon another tray and the top piece is stacked upon a tray.

7. (Currently amended) The assembly of Claim 6 wherein ~~each~~ the tray has a plurality of posts projecting outwardly from each of the sides and a plurality of indentations projecting inwardly from each of the sides, ~~each~~ the top piece has a plurality of indentations projecting inwardly

B17 from each of the sides and ~~each~~ the pallet has a plurality of posts projecting outwardly from each side, the posts cooperating with the indentations.

8. (Currently amended) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 7 wherein ~~each~~ the tray, the pallet and the top piece have contact points in addition to the posts and the indentations so that a vertical load is transmitted through these contact points or surfaces from the top piece to ~~each~~ the tray thereinbelow to the pallet in a more uniformly distributed manner when a tray is stacked upon the pallet or a plurality of trays is stacked upon the pallet and the top piece is stacked upon a top tray.

9. (Original) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 7 wherein each tray, pallet and top piece has a plurality of parallel ribs for contacting an abutting surface of an abutting tray, pallet or top piece.

A1 10. (Currently amended) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 9 wherein ~~each~~ the tray has at least two transverse ribs projecting from a bottom of the tray, each with a contacting surface for contacting either a pallet or tray coupled thereinunder.

11. (Currently amended) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 9 wherein ~~each~~ the pallet has at least two transverse ribs projecting from a top of the tray, each with a contacting surface for contacting either a tray or top piece coupled thereinabove.

12. (Currently amended) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 9 wherein ~~each~~ the top piece has at least two transverse ribs projecting from a bottom of the top piece, each with a contacting surface for contacting either a pallet or tray thereinunder.

13. (Original) A palletized tray assembly including a pallet having a deck comprising:
a carrier for supporting goods thereon or therein adapted to mate with the deck such that the carrier may be optionally mated with the deck or removed therefrom.

14. (Original) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 13 wherein the carrier is a modular tray.

15. (Currently amended) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 14 wherein ~~each~~ the modular tray has means on the bottom thereof for cooperating with either the deck or another tray and means on the top thereof for cooperating with another tray.

16. (Original) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 15 wherein each tray and the pallet have front surfaces and further including means for ensuring the pallet and the trays are mated in a correct alignment such that the front surfaces of the trays and the front surface of the pallet are

B1 aligned with one being on top of the other and coplanar when a tray is stacked upon the pallet and a tray is stacked upon another tray.

17. (Currently amended) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 14 further including a top piece having means on the bottom thereof for cooperating with a tray and wherein ~~each modular~~ the tray has means on the top thereof for cooperating with either another tray or the top piece.

A1 18. (Currently amended) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 17 wherein ~~each~~ the tray, the pallet and the top piece have front surfaces and further including means for ensuring the pallet, the top piece and the ~~trays~~ tray are mated in a correct alignment such that the front surfaces of the trays, the front surface of the top piece and the front surface of the pallet are aligned with one being on top of the other and coplanar when a tray is stacked upon the pallet, a tray is stacked upon another tray and the top piece is stacked upon a tray.

19. (Original) The assembly of Claim 18 wherein each tray has a plurality of posts projecting outwardly from each of the sides and a plurality of indentations projecting inwardly from each of the sides, each top piece has a plurality of indentations projecting inwardly from each of the sides and each pallet has a plurality of posts projecting outwardly from each side, the posts cooperating with the indentations.

20. (Currently amended) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 19 wherein ~~each~~ the tray, the pallet and the top piece have contact points in addition to the posts and the indentations so that a vertical load is transmitted through these contact points or surfaces from the top piece to ~~each~~ the tray thereinbelow to the pallet in a more uniformly distributed manner when a tray is stacked upon the pallet or a plurality of trays is stacked upon the pallet and the top piece is stacked upon a top tray.

21. (Original) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 19 wherein each tray, pallet and top piece has a plurality of parallel ribs for contacting an abutting surface.

22. (Currently amended) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 21 wherein ~~each~~ the tray has at least two transverse ribs projecting from a bottom of the tray, each with a contacting surface for contacting either a pallet or tray coupled thereinunder.

23. (Original) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 21 wherein each pallet has at least two transverse ribs projecting from a top of the tray, each with a contacting surface for contacting either a tray or top piece coupled thereinabove.

24. (Original) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 21 wherein each top piece has at least two transverse ribs projecting from a bottom of the top piece, each with a contacting surface for contacting either a pallet or tray thereinunder.

25. (Original) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 17 wherein the pallet has a footprint defined by its outer perimeter dimensions and the top piece has the same footprint.

26. (Original) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 17 wherein the pallet has a footprint defined by its outer perimeter dimensions and each tray has the same footprint.

27. (Original) The palletized tray assembly of Claim 17 wherein the pallet has a footprint defined by its outer perimeter dimensions and the top piece and each tray have the same footprint.
